


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From: DIGNAN, LILIA
Sent: Wed 7/30/2014 11:03:21 PM
Subject: FW: News Clips for July 30, 2014

EPA approves modified Navajo Power Plant cleanup rule

News Headline: Arizona Daily Star | 

Outlet Full Name: Arizona Daily Star - Online

News Text: A newly approved cleanup plan for the Navajo Generating Station offers a classic environmental trade-off — more pollution apparently will be cleaned up than originally planned, but much of the cleanup will be delayed for many years.

The coal-fired power plant, whose electricity pumps Central Arizona Project water to Tucson, will have to cut its nitrogen oxide emissions by 80 percent over the plant's remaining life and close by 2044 under a plan approved Monday by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

A coalition of interest groups including water users, the Navajo Tribe and conservationists is happy with the EPA's decision because it ensures that the Navajo plant will stay open longer. The plan also means they won't have to spend as much on cleanup as soon as they would have under an earlier plan.

But two leading environmental groups say it's not strong enough due to what they see as lengthy delays in cleanup. They may sue to block its implementation.

Under the EPA's plan, the Navajo station, located near Page at the Utah border, must close one of its three, 750-megawatt generating units or reduce total power generation by an equivalent amount by 2020. It must install better pollution controls on the other two units by 2030. The controls would use technology similar to that used in catalytic converters in cars.

An earlier EPA plan would have required all three units to install pollution controls by 2023. A still-earlier EPA plan would have required installation of controls by 2018.

The proposal is aimed at improving visibility at Grand Canyon National Park and 10 other national parks and wilderness areas.

The new plan will cause the plant to emit about 12.4 percent less total nitrogen oxide than it would have produced under the earlier EPA plans, an agency spreadsheet says. Over time, the cleanup should reduce the plant's impact on visibility at the parks by 72 percent, said Jared Blumenfeld , administrator for the EPA's Pacific Southwest Region, which includes Arizona.

At the same time, however, the new plan delays the deadline at which all the pollution reductions must kick in by seven years from the EPA's most recent plan.

The EPA plan approved Monday matches many if not most of a suite of proposals that came from a coalition of interest groups. The coalition included CAP, the Navajo Tribe, the Gila River Indian Community, the Environmental Defense Fund, the Salt River Project, the U.S. Interior Department and Western Resource Advocates, another conservation group. They were seeking to balance pollution controls with the desire to keep the Navajo plant with its jobs as long as possible.

"This alternative not only saves crucial jobs and keeps vital revenue on the Navajo Nation, but opens the door to new, low-emitting energy development pursuant to the agreement," said Stephen B. Etsitty , executive director of the Navajo Nation EPA.

Vickie Patton , the Defense Fund's general counsel, said the EPA's decision provides "the path forward for a more comprehensive solution to achieve cleaner air, climate security and a stronger clean-energy economy."

But the Sierra Club and the National Parks Conservation Association said they were disappointed at the delays in the cleanup.

"It doesn't do enough to protect public health and the Grand Canyon and other national parks and wilderness areas," said Sandy Bahr , director of the Sierra Club's Grand Canyon Chapter. "They are not requiring that they reduce emissions, like other power plants have to, within a five-year period, treating Arizona and Arizonans to more dirty air.

"It's not treating the Grand Canyon like the world-renowned national treasure that it is," Bahr said.

Under the Clean Air Act, power plants such as Navajo typically have five years to install the Best Available Retrofit Technology to reduce pollution for visibility purposes. Navajo got a "special exception" that isn't fair, said Kevin Dahl , the Parks Conservation Association's Southwest representative.

However, the EPA's final rule on the plant, published Monday, said the agency recognizes that the circumstances for the Navajo plant create unusual and significant challenges for a five-year compliance schedule. For a number of reasons, the utilities and the Navajo Tribe running this plant said they might not be able to afford to keep the plant open under such a schedule. The EPA's rules allow alternatives to the best technology practice if it can be shown that they'll reduce emissions more.

To the CAP, the EPA's decision is a welcome climax to five years of negotiations.

"The support that CAP received from our customers and stakeholders played a critical role in this very positive outcome," said David Modeer , CAP's general manager. "It's a good day for all of us who live in Arizona."

CAP water rates to Tucson and Phoenix users as well as farmers will go up by an unknown amount as a result of this decision, and in fact will rise more than if the earlier EPA plans had been approved and implemented, said Ted Cook , CAP's assistant general manager for finance.

But if the earlier EPA plans also could have resulted in Navajo shutting down, that could have driven up electricity rates more if the water project had to hunt for power on the open market, CAP spokesman Mitch Basefsky said.

[Return to Top](#)




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




















News Clips from Region 9 Media Outlets

July 30, 2014
Report Overview:
Total Clips (38)









[Air \(15\)](#)
[Brownfields / Superfund / Other Cleanups \(3\)](#)
[Climate Change \(4\)](#)
[Energy Issues \(2\)](#)
[Enforcement \(1\)](#)
[Research and Development \(3\)](#)
[Toxics \(1\)](#)
[Water \(7\)](#)
[Other \(2\)](#)

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	Headline	Date	Outlet	Outlet State	
Air (15)					
	Billionaire activist will fight delay of vehicle fuels in cap-and-trade system	07/30/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA	  
	Moapa: Clean energy, strong tribe	07/30/2014	Vegas Sun - Online	NV	  
	Fire near Yosemite turns up heat on California wildfire season	07/30/2014	San Jose Mercury News - Online	CA	  
	Hawaii Energy Office well equipped to handle upcoming challenges, its top official says	07/30/2014	Pacific Business News - Online	HI	  
	Overhaul approved for troubled	07/30/2014	San Francisco	CA	  

	California refinery		Chronicle - Online	
	Third lawsuit filed against Richardson Grove highway widening project	07/30/2014	Times-Standard - CA Online	
	EPA approves modified Navajo Power Plant cleanup rule	07/29/2014	Arizona Daily Star - Online	AZ
	EPA Clean Power rules assailed as too much, too little	07/29/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA
	County awaits EPA approval of the valley's air quality	07/29/2014	Las Vegas Review-Journal - Online	NV
	Greener film shoots can also save costs, report says	07/29/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA
	Is Nuclear Power Vanishing as a Major Global Resource?	07/29/2014	Desert Sun - Online, The	CA
	Navy Finds Radiation in Treasure Island Home	07/29/2014	WTV-TV - Online	CA
	OPINION: EPA proposal devastating to state, families, seniors	07/29/2014	Daily News-Sun	AZ
	U.S. can be a global winner by going lean on energy consumption	07/29/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA
	What will climate change cost? Let's be honest about our ignorance.	07/29/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA
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Brownfields / Superfund / Other Cleanups (3)				
	Navy proposes restricting groundwater access at Mare Island site	07/30/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA
	Chrome 6: Healing Hinkley	07/29/2014	Desert Dispatch - Online	CA
	Fracking ban proposition is a threat to the economy	07/29/2014	San Jose Mercury News - Online	CA
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Climate Change (4)				
	Richmond approves massive Chevron refinery project with \$90 million in community benefits	07/30/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA
	Solano County letter critiques governor's water plan	07/30/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA
	Viewpoints: Oil companies should conserve water, too	07/30/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online, The	CA
	County Moves Forward with First Big Solar Project	07/29/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA













Energy Issues (2)

	Waikiki Seawater Air Conditioning project having tough time finding a site	07/30/2014	Pacific Business News - Online	HI	  
	Hawaiian Electric may charge more during peak hours	07/29/2014	Honolulu Star-Advertiser - Online	HI	  





Enforcement (1)

	BEN BOYCHUK: Drought: A puddle of failed policies	07/30/2014	Press-Enterprise Online	CA	  
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Research and Development (3)

	'Smart' watering systems can help landscapes survive drought limits	07/30/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA	  
	Terror threats at chemical plants underestimated	07/30/2014	San Jose Mercury News - Online	CA	  
	New federal standards for beaches	07/29/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA	  

Toxics (1)

	Water main blowout not the first, or likely the last	07/30/2014	Orange County Register - Online	CA	  
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Water (7)

	Another View: Copper paint rules are reasonable	07/30/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online, The	CA	  
	Protect state's groundwater and the public interest now!	07/30/2014	Times-Standard - Online	CA	  
	Regulators, enviros, industry working together in SD County	07/30/2014	San Diego - Online	CA	  
	Citrus growers, legislators push for putting water bond on ballot	07/29/2014	Yuba Bee - Online	CA	  
	Kevin MacMillan: Thanks for trashing beloved Tahoe beaches	07/29/2014	Tahoe Daily Tribune - Online	CA	  
	Major California reservoirs below 50% capacity as drought wears on	07/29/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA	  
	State craft brewers fear drought could alter business, and the beer	07/29/2014	Los Angeles Times - Online	CA	  

Other (2)

	Feds put up \$100,000 to help residents replace wells	07/29/2014	Yuba Bee - Online	CA	  
	New statewide water waste	07/29/2014	San Francisco Chronicle - Online	CA	  

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